

MeadWestvaco Corporation *Papers Group*
35 Hartford Street
Rumford, ME 04276



August 13, 2003

Ms. Dawn Gallagher, Commissioner
Maine Department of Environmental Protection
17 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0017

Dear Commissioner Gallagher:

LD1137, "An Act Regarding Riverine Impoundments," provides the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) with the authority to adopt a compliance depth for dissolved oxygen in stratified riverine impoundments, including Gulf Island Pond. The Department has chosen to establish a stakeholder group to participate in this process. The MeadWestvaco Rumford Mill is submitting this report as part of the stakeholder process to satisfy the need for technological and economic information regarding the range of wastewater improvement options capable of reducing effluent BOD and TSS loadings from the Rumford Mill to the Androscoggin River. This submittal is only a component of the overall process for establishing a compliance depth for dissolved oxygen for Gulf Island Pond. This information should be considered as part of the overall evaluation of the physical, chemical, biological, and economic factors associated with current conditions in Gulf Island Pond.

The table below summarizes the additional costs of meeting reduced BOD and TSS limits including the \$700,000 per year operating cost that the mill presently incurs by voluntarily choosing to operate below current license limits.

BOD/TSS License Limit Description	July 28th Matrix Option Numbers	Capital Cost (\$)	Operating Cost (\$/year)
April 15 th Modeling Run Limits	4A, 4B	\$600,000	\$850,000 (\$700,000 for current beyond compliance operations and \$150,000 for future beyond compliance operations)
DEP Modeling Report "PDP" Limits	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9	\$12,600,000	\$900,000 (\$700,000 for current beyond compliance operations and \$200,000 for future beyond compliance operations)

The added capital and operating costs of the different oxygen diffuser options and different phosphorus reductions will be addressed in separate submittals. If you have any questions, please contact me at (207)369-2302 or Scott Reed at (207) 369-2203.

Sincerely,

Mike Sinclair
Environmental Engineer

cc: Ms. Deborah Garrett – Maine DEP